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After leaving the University Mr. Oviatt entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, and had nearly finished his course when he was killed in one of those seemingly needless railroad accidents.

This brief notice would be incomplete without a word as to Mr. Oviatt's character as a man. That his aims were high would be inferred from the care with which he was preparing himself for his chosen profession. He was an active member of the Young Men's Christian Association in the University, and after going to New York became especially interested in the medical examinations and the physical training which form part of the work of the Association. He himself was an excellent specimen of a vigorous, hopeful, healthy human being, and believed that one of the paths, at least, toward a good life lies in sound physical health; and before his death it seemed to him that perhaps he could do most for his fellow men by aiding in the development of this work in the Association.

Mr. Oviatt's death is a loss to the University in which he was a loyal and honored alumnus, to the Christian Association, to the noble medical profession to which he had devoted his life, and to this society, which had a right to expect great things of him.—S. H. G.

#### **HENRY MILLS.**

The subject of this notice was born in Mill End, Rickmansworth, Herts, England, March 15, 1813, and died of pneumonia at Chattanooga, Tennessee, February 7, 1889, while on his way, with members of his family, to Florida.

Mr. Mills, with his family, came to this country in 1848. From 1850 until 1879 he was connected with George A. Prince & Co., Buffalo, N. Y., manufacturers of organs, when he retired from business.

Mr. Mills' influence in local scientific circles was positive; as an amateur he accomplished much. First, by his own painstaking effort, and second, by the help and direction given to others. Mainly through his influence the first organization in Buffalo for microscopical study was undertaken. He thus became the first Curator of Microscopy of the Buffalo Society of Natural Science in the autumn of 1872. The Buffalo Microscopical Club was instituted in 1876, and from its beginning until his death he was an active

member, most of the time an officer. Perhaps no one contributed more to its popularity and success than he.

In the National Society, also, he was influential ; since the Buffalo meeting of 1879, when he was elected a member, he has usually attended the annual meetings and contributed to the proceedings and the general interest.

In the autumn of 1878 sponges were first found in abundance in the Niagara river. The first one to attract attention was *Carterius tubisperma*, Mills. At this time he commenced the critical study of these interesting beings, a study which added much to our knowledge of them, and ended only with his death. His original papers on sponges were published in the Proceedings of this Society and in *The Microscope*. It is but just to say, however, that many of his observations and conclusions were communicated to others and by them published. He has often said to the writer that it mattered not to him who published the first description of a species if he was given credit for the finding.

The character of our friend was without reproach. He was a christian gentleman, a loyal citizen, and a helpful member of society. A true estimate of his manhood was given by Rev. David Moore at his funeral, who said: "If ever a man was marked by thorough honesty and integrity, he was. He was transparently sincere and truthful, guileless and simple-hearted as a child. There was no indirection about him. He never beat about the bush, but always in thought and word and deed went straight for the desired object."

He was buried in beautiful Forest Lawn, Buffalo, N. Y. He rests on a hillside overlooking a valley where in the years of his mature life he studied nature and led others to take interest in such studies: here, years before the art of the landscape gardener had interfered, he sought out and brought to light many wonderfully beautiful minute plants and animals. Here, not many years ago, the pitcher-plant, bladderwort, sun-dew, water lily and lady's slipper grew in abundance to greet every devotee. They are gone and are but sweet memories, as, also, are the life and character of our friend. It was inevitable that he should leave us; still we grieve. But it may lighten our sorrow to know that his resting place is amidst the scenes of his researches, discoveries and delights.—D. S. K.

